

Project Proposal

Proposal Title: 8 mile bench

Proposal Number: 1430

DWR Region: Southern Region

Lead Agency: USFS

County: Washington

Project Manager: Devin Johnson

PM Phone: 4358656113

Regional Priority: Within Focus Area

Project Type: Terrestrial Habitat

Proposed Start Date: 8/1/2009

Project Location: This project is located just NE of the town of Central and goes west towards the town of Pine Valley ending before Four Mile Spring.

Project Description: Aerial seeding and mechanical treatment of approximately 600 acres.

Description of Problem/Need: This project area consists of old chainings from a few decades back. The area consists of Pinyon Juniper (PJ) and mountain shrub vegetation types (including sagebrush, cliff rose, and service berry), with very few desirable grasses/shrubs for wildlife. The PJ have encroached tremendously into this area. Grazing of cattle along with the encroachment has limited the regeneration of grasses and shrubs. Currently we are treating the PJ encroachment area using Bobcat equipment with bullhog and marshall saw attachments (Forest Service funded). The area is composed of critical summer/wintering habitat for mule deer. This is also habitat for wild turkey and quail.

Objectives: Aerial seed approximately 600 acres to increase the representation of the forb/grass/young shrub component and increase the diversity of forage for wildlife and cattle as well as improving the overall conditions of the landscape and fuels break. The long-term goal is to return to a landscape dominated with diverse forb/grass/shrub understory surrounded by a historic distribution of PJ.

Relevance to Strategic Plans: Helps meet the habitat restoration goals for mule deer (Tier III) and elk for this management unit. Helps meet Dixie National Forest Plan habitat restoration goals and objectives.

This project is connected with other projects in the surrounding area. It connects with the 4 mile bench vegetation project and is just SW of the Far West/Pinto project. These projects are meant to improve big game winter and transition range habitat by providing a range of grasses, forbs and small shrubs.

Potential Risks: There is a possibility that the area will experience drought causing seed non-germination. A reduced understory may cause increased soil erosion.

Proposed Methods: Aerial seed 600 of 1000 identified acres prior to mechanical treatment being implemented by the USFS.

Shapefile Name: S:/DWR/HPD-2010/GIS Shapefiles/1430.shp

Seed Source: GBRC

UPCD Reg Team Coord Date:

Proposed NEPA Action:

Proposed Arch Action:

☒ **Vegetation Monitoring** ☒ **Wildlife Monitoring**

Monitoring Information: Pre-monitoring has been completed. The forest will continue to monitor at one, three and five year intervals. Projected monitoring will be done on vegetation growth and game usage.

Grazing Management:

SPECIES BENEFITING

Mule Deer

Elk

Rio Grande Wild Turkey

Blue Grouse

Gambel's Quail

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LAND OWNERSHIP

Owner	Acres
USFS	600
Total	600

PROPOSED FUNDING

Source	Amount Requested	Date Approved	Amount Approved
Unfunded Balance	\$36,000.00		\$0.00
USFS	\$38,000.00		\$38,000.00
Totals	\$74,000.00		\$38,000.00

PROPOSED BUDGET

Item	Description	DWR Account	Partner Contrib.
Seed (GBRC)	600 acres @ \$50/acre	\$30,000.00	\$0.00
Contractual Services	Aerial Seeding Contract 600 acres @ \$10/acre	\$6,000.00	\$0.00
Other	FS Implementation of Mechanical Treatment	\$0.00	\$38,000.00
Totals		\$36,000.00	\$38,000.00

Project Map:

